

*Although we gather virtually, it's important that I acknowledge that my parents migrated from the villages of Leulumoega and Saleimoa in Samoa and settled in Long Beach which is home to the Tongva nations, the original stewards of this territory. I am committed to uplifting the name of these lands and community members from these Nations who reside alongside us.*

# From Oceania to California

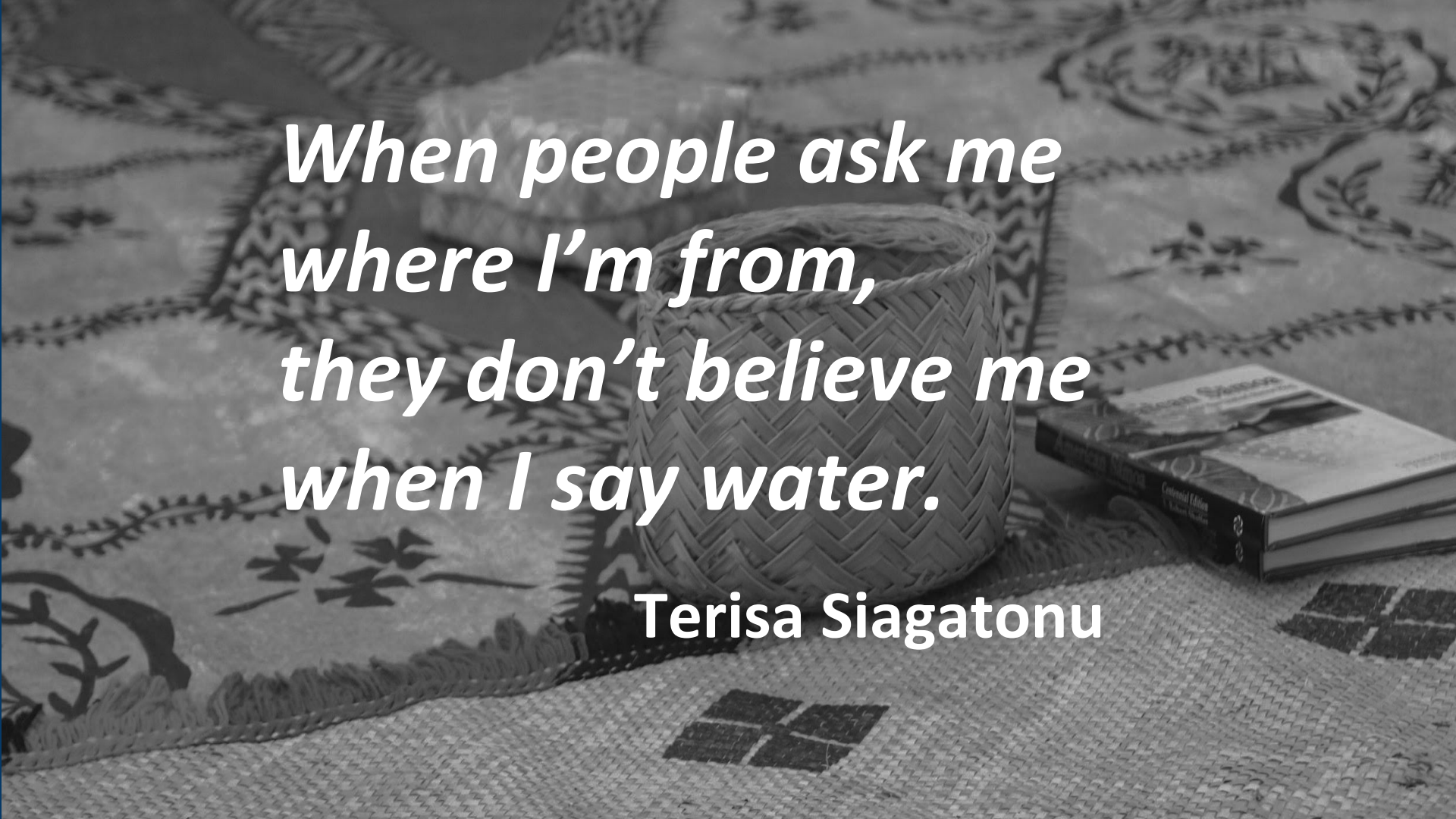
*Citizens Redistricting Commission  
November 6th, 2020*

*Presented by*  
**Tavae Samuelu, Associate Director**





EPIC was established in 2009 by a group of young Pacific Islander (PI) leaders who recognized the urgency to address the growing needs of PI families. With experiences ranging from grassroots organizing to higher education administration, these young leaders prioritized building a strong and unified advocacy voice for PIs; collecting disaggregated data that illustrated the needs of PI families; and **establishing a pipeline of strong leaders who can be advocates and influencers in, and on behalf of, the community.**

A black and white photograph of a woven basket and books on a patterned rug. The basket is made of dark, woven material with a herringbone pattern. It sits on a light-colored rug with a dark, repeating geometric pattern. To the right of the basket are two books. The top book is titled 'The Water Dancer' and the bottom book is 'The Book of David'. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

*When people ask me  
where I'm from,  
they don't believe me  
when I say water.*

**Terisa Siagatonu**

### U.S. CITIZENS

(Guam, Hawai'i [U.S. state], & Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands)

- Live & work in the U.S. legally
- Qualify for public benefits (e.g., health care)
- Vote in elections
- Eligible to serve in U.S. military

Hawai'i

Northern Mariana Islands  
Guam

Palau  
Federated States of Micronesia  
Marshall Islands

### COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION MIGRANTS

(Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, & Republic of Palau)

- Live & work in the U.S. legally
- Labeled "nonimmigrants" but are not considered citizens or nationals
- Not eligible for most federal benefits, some U.S. states may provide limited benefits
- Eligible to serve in U.S. military

American Samoa

French Polynesia

### U.S. NATIONALS

(American Samoa)

- Live & work in the U.S. legally
- Similar to other immigrants, must obtain citizenship to obtain full benefits
- Qualify for most federal benefits, some state or local benefits
- Cannot vote when living in states
- Eligible to serve in U.S. military

### IMMIGRANTS FROM ISLANDS WITHOUT U.S. ASSOCIATION

(Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Samoa, Tokelau, Kiribati, & others)

- Not citizens or nationals
- Must apply for legal permanent resident status to work & live in the U.S. legally, similar to other immigrants
- Must wait 5 years to apply for public benefits
- Cannot vote or serve in U.S. military

New Zealand



Source:  
*Native  
Hawaiians &  
Pacific Islanders  
A Community Of  
Contrasts,  
Asian Americans  
Advancing  
Justice- LA and  
EPIC*





# NATIVE HAWAIIANS & PACIFIC ISLANDERS

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Almost 361,000 living in CA in 2017.

## TOP 5 COUNTIES

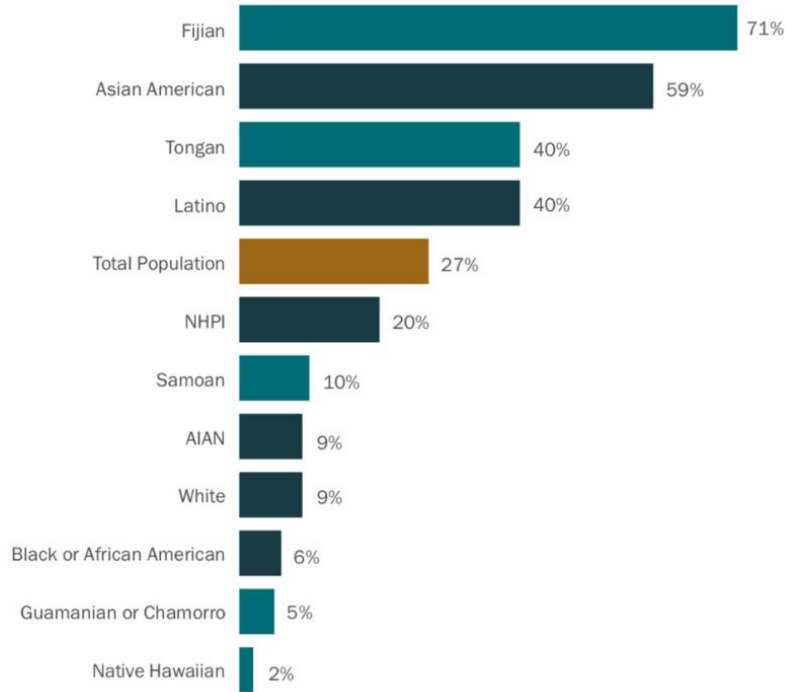
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Los Angeles	67,844
San Diego	37,312
Sacramento	30,617
Alameda	27,226
Orange	24,234

*Source: Why the Census Matters for Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Communities*

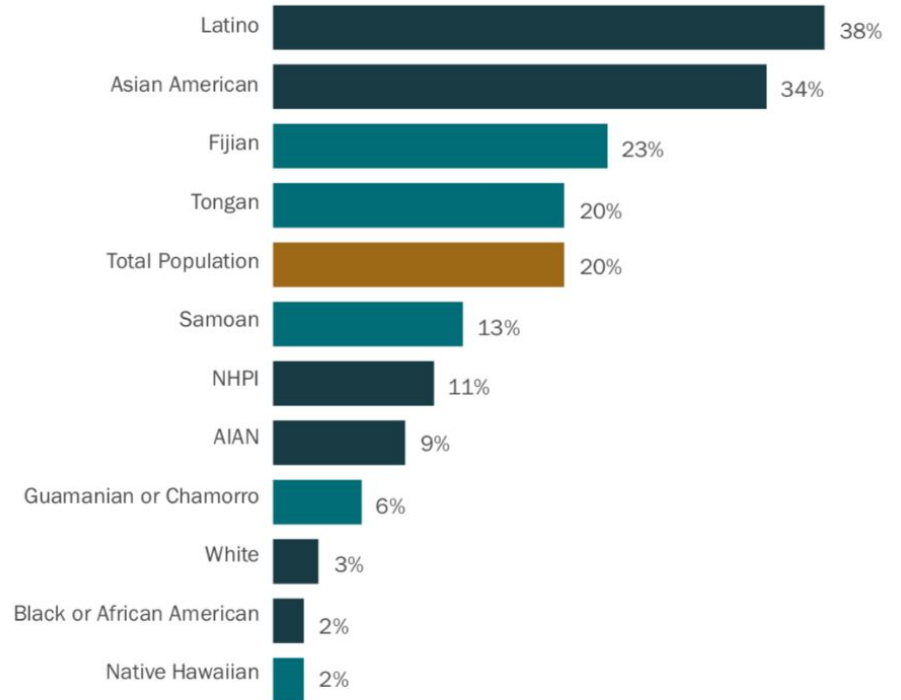
## Foreign-Born

by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group, California 2006–2010



## Limited English Proficiency for the Population 5 Years & Older

by Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group, California 2006–2010



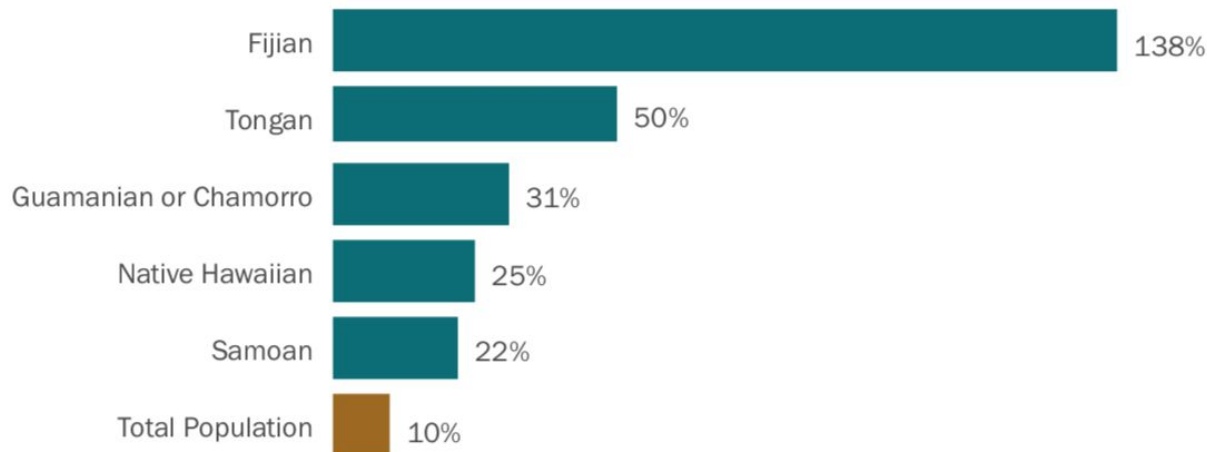
## Population by Ethnic Group

California 2010

County	Number
Native Hawaiian	74,932
Samoan	60,876
Guamanian or Chamorro	44,425
Fijian	24,059
Tongan	22,893
Marshallese	1,761
Palauan	1,404
Tahitian	969
Saipanese	168
Tokelauan	138
Yapese	138
Pohnpeian	108

## Population Growth by Ethnic Group

California 2000 to 2010



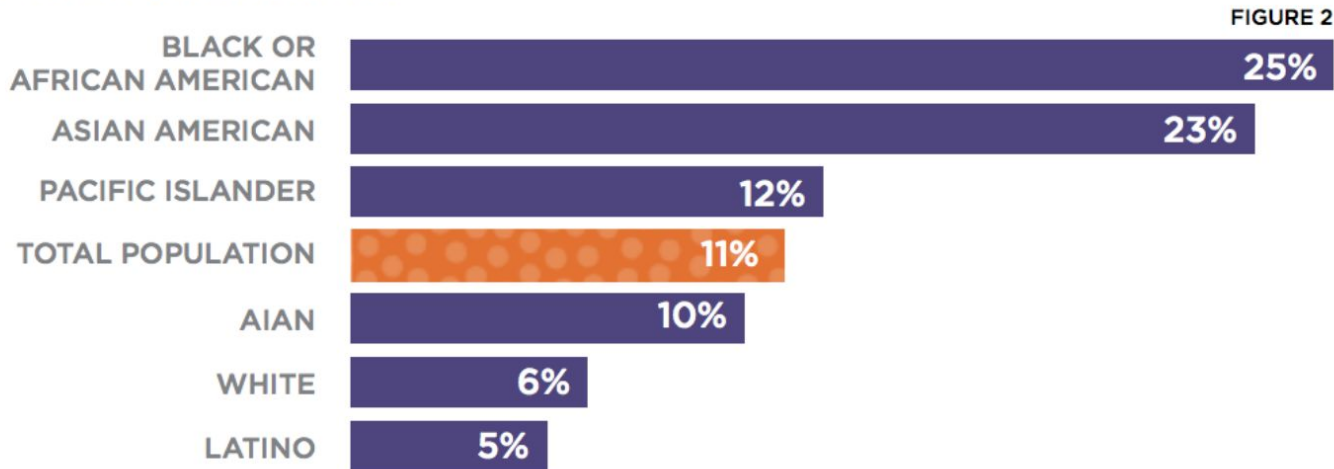
U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census SF1, Tables P1 and PCT10; 2010 Census SF1, Tables P1 and PCT10. Note: Figures for ethnic groups excluded if (1) groups did not meet 2000 Census population threshold for reporting or (2) number less than 100 in 2010.

Source: Native Hawaiians & Pacific Islanders A Community Of Contrasts 2014



## FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION GROWTH BY RACE & HISPANIC ORIGIN

United States 2010 to 2017



Source: *Inside the Numbers: How Immigration Shapes Asian American and Pacific Islander Communities*

# FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION BY ETHNIC GROUP

United States 2017

FIGURE 5

Ethnic Group	Number
Indian	2,922,710
Chinese (except Taiwanese)	2,915,753
Filipino	1,894,566
Vietnamese	1,215,401
Korean	1,048,802
Pakistani	326,153
Japanese	324,269
Thai	160,670
Cambodian	150,765
Burmese	145,183
Nepalese	144,848

FIGURE 5, CONTINUED

Ethnic Group	Number
Bangladeshi	129,135
Laotian	122,564
Taiwanese	116,211
Hmong	105,103
Indonesian	55,773
Samoan	9,489
Guamanian or Chamorro	5,951
Native Hawaiian*	5,197



**NHPI Ethnic Groups**

Source: *Inside the Numbers: How Immigration Shapes Asian American and Pacific Islander Communities*

# NHPI FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION, GROWTH

Top States, 2010 to 2017 | Ranked by Population

FIGURE 4

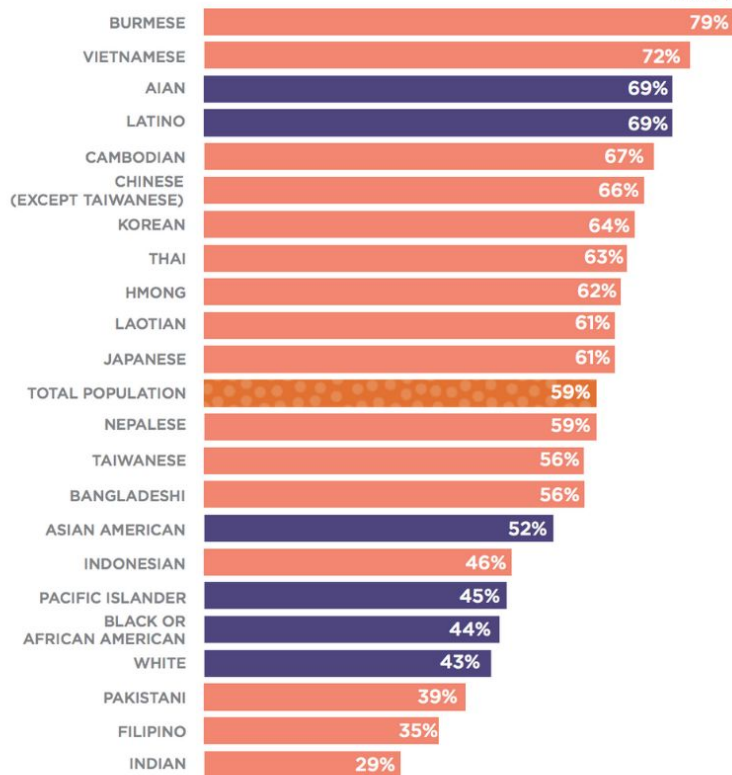
State	Number	% of NHPI Population	Growth
California	69,339	0.7%	9%
Hawai'i	21,575	8%	-13%
Washington	9,569	0.9%	22%

Source: *Inside the Numbers: How Immigration Shapes Asian American and Pacific Islander Communities*

## LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY FOR THE FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION 5 YEARS & OLDER

By Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ethnic Group, 2012–2016

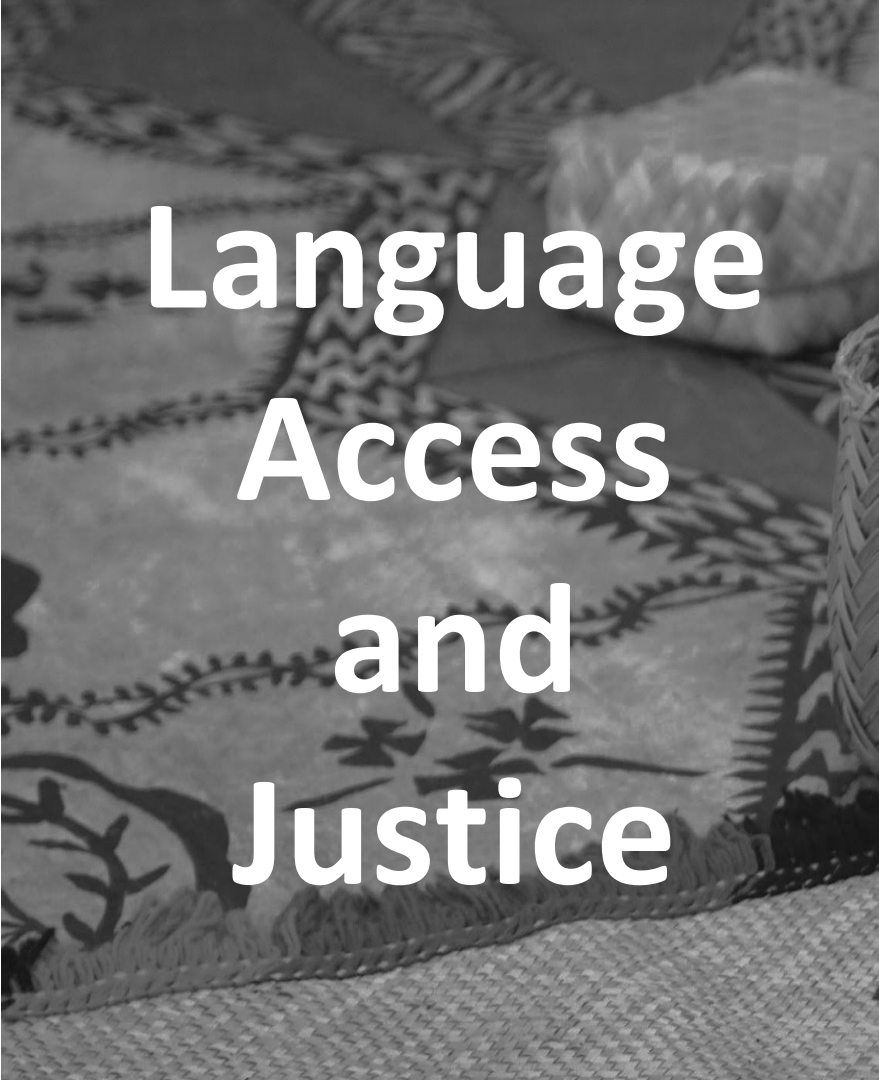
FIGURE 10



# 45%

**FOREIGN-BORN PACIFIC ISLANDERS**  
show limited english proficiency (LEP)

**Top Translation Needs in CA:**  
Marshallese, Tongan, Samoan



# Language Access and Justice

*Language access is achieved when individuals with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) can communicate effectively with your program staff and participate in your programs and activities.*

*Language justice is the right everyone has to communicate in the language in which we feel most comfortable*



**Resources provided in: Chamorro, Chuukese, Marshallese, Native Hawaiian, Palauan, Tongan, Samoan, and Vakaviti.**



# Contact

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